



**DCFS Latino Advisory Council**  
**1911 South Indiana Ave,**  
**Chicago, IL 60616, 10<sup>th</sup> floor, Room 1015**  
**January 16, 2020**  
**8:30am – 5:00pm**  
**888-494-4032 / code 9921831605#**

**Chair-Person:**  
Nancy Rodriguez

**Past Chair-Person:**  
Juanita Calderon

**Chair-Elect:**  
Julia Monzon

**Scribe:**  
Maria Hernandez

**DCFS Members:**  
Vanessa Castro  
Jose Garcia  
Sydney Juarez  
Evelyn Martinez  
Azalea Mejia  
Taylor Pierson  
Beatriz Ramirez  
Liliana Romero

**POS Members:**  
Patricia Aguilar  
Jennifer Contreras  
Lisa Marie Perez  
Daizy Salgado

**Ex-officio Members:**  
Jose J. Lopez, OLS

**Director's Liason:**  
Daniel Fitzgerald  
Affirmative Action

**Committees:**  
Child Safety and  
Permanency  
  
Community Risk  
Reduction and  
Staffing  
  
Data validity and  
Disproportionality  
  
Strategic  
Communications  
  
Latino Family  
Institute  
  
Professional Development  
Day  
  
POS (Ad Hoc)

## **AMENDED MINUTES**

**Present In Person:** Nancy Rodriguez; Julia Monzon; Coty Corcoles; Sydney Juarez; Evelyn Martinez; Jose Lopez; Daniel Fitzgerald

**By Phone:** Patricia Aguilar; Vanessa Castro; Jennifer Contreras; Lisa M.

**Excused:** Juanita Calderon; Jose Garcia; Maria Hernandez; Azalea Mejia; Taylor Pierson; Beatriz Ramirez; Liliana Romero; Daizy Salgado

### **Welcome**

Nancy welcomed everyone. Everyone introduced themselves. Group activity was completed.

### **December Minutes (tabled; no quorum)**

### **Committee Reports**

Written reports had been requested.

Update Committee Lists (tabled)

### **Child Safety & Permanency – Patricia Aguilar**

Coty stated that she has requested DCFS data on Latino and bilingual foster-homes from Affirmative Action and OITS. She will complete the final report once she receives the data. Nancy stated that there is no evidence to date that there are any bilingual special foster-homes for our Spanish speaking youth in care. Nancy reported that the Burgos report that Daniel provided a hard-copy in May, 2019 has some data on foster-homes. Nancy showed all LAC members on screen how to access multiple public reports on the DCFS public website including regarding foster-home data. This data is updated monthly. Go to the D-Net and click on External Website Links then click on DCFS website. Next click on About Us then on Reports and Statistics. Nancy stated that Darryl Johnson is also a source of information in relations to foster-homes.

## **Community Risk Reduction & Staffing – Jose Garcia (tabled)**

## **Data Validity & Disproportionality – Nancy Rodriguez**

Nancy reported that the Inspector General's report issued this month shows that there has been a 25% increase in child deaths in the fiscal year 2019 (7-1-2018 to 6-30-2019). There were 123 child deaths in fiscal year 2019.

## **Strategic Communications – Julia Monzon**

Julia requested articles for Noticias for the Professional Development Day.

## **POS – Jennifer Contreras & Jose J. Lopez**

Jennifer reported that the second scheduled POS agencies collaboration meeting took place on 1-15-20 at La Casa Norte. There were many agencies in attendance. POS issues were discussed.

## **Affirmative Action Reports (tabled)**

## **Old Business**

## **Bylaws (tabled due to revision of LAC Calendar)**

## **Historical Document (tabled)**

## **Director's Meeting**

Stephanie Polacheck stated that there are currently no barriers to scheduling a meeting with the DCFS Director. Nancy stated that March can potentially be the month that LAC members can meet with the Director. Stephanie was available on answering questions anyone may have regarding reports.

## **New Business**

New Member Nominations and Voting (tabled)  
Special Meeting (tabled)  
Open forum for members (tabled)  
Open forum for guests (tabled)  
Next LAC Meeting 2-19-20 DCFS – Glen Ellyn, IL

**Scribe: Nancy Rodriguez**